

BOWLES SPEEDS UP HOG ISLAND PLANS

Piez Says Admiral Has Taken Slack Out of Shipyard by Drastic Work.

FINDS NO GRAFT SO FAR

Senate Investigating Committee to Be Invited to Visit Big Plant.

Special Dispatch to THE STAR

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 17.—(AP)—Admiral Bowles left and, excess employees severed from their jobs, contracts reduced and expenditures measurably lessened, changes in the plans to speed up the programme, transportation of steel hastened—these are some of the changes which Charles A. Piez, general manager of the Emergency Fleet Corporation, said he found today that Rear Admiral Bowles had instituted since his first visit to Hog Island. The disclosures were made when he made his third official inspection of the shipyard.

In addition Mr. Piez said that when there were three independent investigators about the officials of the Emergency Fleet Corporation had been unable to detect any graft at Hog Island up to the present time.

"Admiral Bowles," he added, "has started to do the very work for which he was sent here—he has taken the slack out of everything. At his suggestion, for example, I am going to invite the entire Senate Committee on Commerce to come to Philadelphia and visit the yard to get a first hand impression of the present condition of affairs in the gigantic project which we have in hand."

Mr. Piez returned to Washington late yesterday after he had returned from the shipyard, where he saw the plant for the first time under the Bowles regime. He expressed himself as highly pleased with the changes and declared that matters were going ahead in the manner that would be expected when a master mind came at the helm.

Mr. Piez then cited the various reforms which have been established in the plans which up to the present time have run neck and neck with construction of or such a little distance ahead as a handicap the construction work is of some extent.

"But Admiral Bowles has his hands on all the levers," Mr. Piez added. "He is extremely able man and who is accomplishing a thing none he knows how to go about it for instant and expeditious accomplishment. This is a gigantic undertaking and already we have three independent investigations—one by the Senate investigating committee which is trying to learn how the money was spent, a second by the Department of Justice to learn if everything was straight and the third is level, and the third by ourselves. I am sure that in all fairness that up to the present we have not been able to detect any graft."

HEAVY FIRING ON ITALIAN LINE

Generals Under Heavy Bombardment

ment by guns of Allies.

Rome, Feb. 17.—The War Office communication issued today says:

There have been lively actions between the Brenas and on the middle plain, but batteries carried out effective concentrations of fire on enemy movements east of the Val Frenella and on the dark slopes of Col Della Bestetta. Very successful counter-battery firing was effected by the British heavy artillery opposite Montebello.

In the Val Lancia and south of Grave on the Asolo plateau, hostile reconnoitering parties were repulsed by rifle fire. One of our patrols caused great alarm in the enemy lines at Grave di Paradiso plateau.



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clean-up of men's hats, caps
and shoes—but at the War-

men and 34th Street Stores only. This, because quantities are most as small as values are large!

Men's soft hats, cloth hats and derbies.

250 were \$2.00
651 were \$2.00
925 were \$1.00
215 were \$1.00

\$1.95.

Men's caps.

250 were \$
651 were \$
925 were \$
215 were \$

55c.

Men's shoes—odds and ends.

75 were \$
75 were \$
75 were \$

\$3.75.

At all stores — extra values in men's suits and overcoats.

Open today as usual.

ROGERS PEET COMPANY

13th St roadway Warren	"The Four Corners"	Broadway at 34th St Fifth Ave at 43rd St
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